



## E-Book Task Force Recommendations

May 20, 2015

In October 2014, CLA struck an e-Book Task Force chaired by Past President, Pilar Martinez, that included the membership of fifteen individuals that represent a broad range of sectors and geographic regions, including public libraries, academic libraries, consortia, and publishers, along with CLA (see below for a list of Task Force members). Executive Director, Valoree McKay, was an ex-officio member of this task force.

The terms of reference mandated that the CLA e-Book Task Force:

1. Identify, collect, analyse and share information on what is currently being done with respect to e-books, as defined by the task force;
2. Develop recommendations on which existing overarching principles could be adopted by CLA as well as recommend which overarching principles that CLA could/should be develop;
3. Identify and recommend potential advocacy roles and strategies related to the above and to the e-book issues that face the library and information community.

Between October 2014 and February 2015, the full group met via teleconference five times. Several cluster meetings including public library meetings, academic library meetings, meetings with Impact Affairs, and smaller group focused meetings to propose draft strategy and roles and responsibility documents were held throughout that same period.

The [recommendations of the Task Force's](#), which can be found on the CLA website, include adoption and communication of the Key Library Priorities for e-Content and the implementation of e-Content public awareness and advocacy plans for academic and public libraries. These were approved by Executive Council in March 2015 and endorsed by the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL) in May 2015.

Furthermore, CLA has implemented the recommendation to become a signatory to *ReadersFirst*, an initiative that is “dedicated to ensuring that library users have the same open, easy and free access to e-books that they have come to rely on with physical books.” In collaboration with e-content distributors and library vendors, *ReadersFirst* works to streamline the process of accessing e-content to improve the end user experience. The Task Force acknowledges the efforts and collaborative spirit demonstrated by Ottawa Public Library and Toronto Public Library, specifically Jennifer Stirling and Vickery Bowles, who generously shared their advocacy strategies, letters and other resources to kick-start the work of the CLA task force.

The next stage of the Task Force's work will focus on communication of the recommendations and implementation of the public awareness and advocacy plans.

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Should you have any questions about the recommendations, please do not hesitate to contact Pilar Martinez or anyone else from the Task Force.

#### **CLA e-Book Task Force Members**

- Bobby Glushko (University of Toronto, Ontario)
- Lou Duggan (Saint Mary's University, Nova Scotia)
- Rob Tiessen (University of Calgary, Alberta)
- Clare Appavoo (Canadian Research Knowledge Network, National)
- Vickery Bowles (Toronto Public Library, Ontario)
- Christina de Castell (Vancouver Public Library, British Columbia)
- Pam Ryan (Edmonton Public Library, Alberta)
- Michael Ciccone (Hamilton Public Library, Ontario)
- Brett Waytuck, (Saskatchewan Ministry of Education, Prairies)
- Paul Whitney (Member of IFLA's Copyright and Other Legal Matters and Chair of IFLA's eLending Working Group, British Columbia)
- Jennifer Stirling (Ottawa Public Library, Ontario)
- Krystyna Ross (Representative, Book and Periodical Council, National)
- Pierre Plante (Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec, Québec)
- Jean-François Cusson (BiblioPresto, Quebec)
- Pilar Martinez, CLA Past President (Executive Council Liaison)
- Valoree McKay, CLA Executive Director